

In the Claims:

The applicant hereby restates the claims of the present application as follows:

1.-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) A replacement filter kit for use in replacing a filter element in a waste water discharge system including a first channel defining a receptacle for a filter and a second channel connected generally orthogonally to the first channel providing an outlet from the filter receptacle, the filter kit element comprising: a shield member and a filter element, the filter element having an axial support of a pre-selected length, a plurality of bristles fixed to the axial support and extending radially outward to define an outer margin, the outer margin of the bristles, at some portions along the pre-selected length, being at least equal to an inside dimension of said channel defining the receptacle, and handle means fixed to the axial support facilitating the placement and withdrawal of the filter element in the filter receptacle, the shield member comprising a sheet generally conformable to the inside surface of the filter receptacle, the shield member having a length dimension sufficient to cover the outlet leading to the second channel for blocking any flow of waste water into the second channel during replacement of the filter element, the shield member having two corners bent outward to provide engagement ~~tangs~~ tabs for engaging an upper margin of the first channel.

17. (Original) The replacement filter kit of claim 16 wherein the handle comprises a unitary extension of the axial support extending radially to only one side of the axial support by a distance sufficient to overlie a margin of the first channel, the shield member having a width dimension selected so that the margins defining the width dimension are spaced from each other by a distance sufficient to allow the shield member to pass by the handle when inserted into the first channel.

18. (Original) The replacement filter kit of claim 16 wherein the sheet forming the shield member is curved to a nearly cylindrical form, two opposing edges of the sheet being separated from each other by a distance sufficient to permit said handle means to pass between the two opposing edges.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) A shield member for use during the replacement of a filter element in a waste water treatment facility, the shield member comprising a sheet generally conformable to the inside surface of a filter receptacle, the shield member having a length dimension sufficient to cover an outlet of the filter receptacle for blocking any flow of waste water out of the filter receptacle during replacement of the filter element, the shield member having a lateral dimension so that when curved to conform to the inside surface of the filter receptacle the shield assumes a nearly cylindrical form having two opposing edges of the sheet being separated from each other to define a slot, two adjacent corners of the opposing edges being bent outward to provide engagement ~~tangs~~ tabs for engaging an upper margin of the filter receptacle.

21. (New) A filter element and a shield member in a waste water discharge system, the discharge system including a first channel defining a receptacle for a filter and a second channel connected generally orthogonally to the first channel providing an outlet from the filter receptacle, the filter element having an axial support of a pre-selected length, a plurality of bristles fixed to the axial support and extending radially outward to define an outer margin, the outer margin of the bristles, at some portions along the pre-selected length, being at least equal to an inside dimension of said channel defining the receptacle, and handle means fixed to the axial support facilitating the placement and withdrawal of the filter element in the filter receptacle, the shield member comprising a sheet

generally conformed to the inside surface of the filter receptacle, the shield member having a length dimension sufficient to cover the outlet leading to the second channel for blocking any flow of waste water into the second channel during replacement of the filter element, the shield member having two corners bent outward to provide engagement tabs for engaging an upper margin of the first channel.

22. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the handle comprises a unitary extension of the axial support extending radially to only one side of the axial support by a distance sufficient to overlie a margin of the first channel, the shield member having a width dimension selected so that the margins defining the width dimension are spaced from each other by a distance sufficient to allow the shield member to pass by the handle when inserted into or removed from the first channel.

23. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the axial support comprises a spiral wound set of wires, the bristles being captured between the set of wires.

24. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 the bristles have a cross-sectional diameter of between about 0.2 and 0.004 cm.

25. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the bristles are present in an amount of between about 10^2 and 10^4 per centimeter of length of the axial support.